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of the studies made there by Elias Fries in the early years of his life.

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SHEAR'S STUDIES OF PARASITIC SPECIES OF *GLOMERELLA*

"Studies of the fungous Parasites belonging to the genus *Glomerella*," by Dr. C. L. Shear, appears as Bulletin 252 of the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture. The name *Glomerella* is the generic name applied to the ascogenous stage of *Gloeosporium* or *Colletotrichum*, which attacks various kinds of plants giving rise to a variety of diseases.

The object of the paper as set forth by its author is to determine the life histories, habits and identity or relationship of the forms of *Gloeosporium* or *Colletotrichum* found on the same or different hosts. The paper covers the investigations of members of this group of organisms obtained from 45 host plants. Of the 473 species of *Gloeosporium* and *Colletotrichum* given by Saccardo not including members of the genus included by Saccardo under other generic names, it is estimated by Shear that about 50 per cent. of these so-called species cannot be determined except on the basis of host relations or the part of the host attacked.

The life history of forms from 36 different hosts plants have been determined and recorded in this paper, 17 having been produced in pure culture and 19 on the host either in moist chamber or under natural conditions. All of the material from the 36 hosts is referred to three species, *G. cingulata*, *G. Gossypii*, and *G. lindemuthianum*, the first occurring on 34 hosts and the remaining two on one host each.

None of the morphological or physiological characters in the genus seem to be well fixed, the conidia, chlamydospores, perithecia, ascospores, and paraphyses showing a wide range of variation. Most forms do not seem to be restricted to any particular host.

The question is raised as to why the life cycle of *Glomerella* and other pyrenomycetes is sometimes completed in pure culture while at other times only conidia or pycnospores or no fructification of any kind is found. Various views on this subject have been summarized but the question is still an open one for *Glom-*

*erella* although some of the supposed factors have been tested sufficiently to eliminate them.

F. J. SEAVER.

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RIDGWAY'S NEW COLOR GUIDE<sup>1</sup>

A new color guide by Dr. Robert Ridgway, the well-known ornithologist, is practically an entirely revised and much enlarged edition of his earlier nomenclature of colors (1886) with 17 plates and 186 colors as against 53 plates and 1,115 colors in the present work. The color work was done by A. Hoen & Co., of Baltimore, and is much more uniform in different copies than in the earlier edition, which was hand stenciled from several mixings of the same color; while in the present work each color for the whole edition of 5,000 copies was prepared from one lot of color and uniformly coated at one time. While the present work does not contain quite as many colors as are included in the more bulky French work by René Oberthur, the gradation between colors is more uniform, and the colors are on dull instead of glossy-surfaced paper as in that work, which gives a slightly different, but more natural color effect, and no metallic color effects are included. The proportion of darker broken colors is greater, which will appeal especially to the ornithologist and mammologist, although the work is designed to be equally useful to botanists, florists, artists, dyers, merchants, and chemists who require a standard color scheme. The colors have evidently been standardized to a degree of accuracy not hitherto attained in any color chart. The colors are one-half by one inch, arranged on a heavy gray paper in three vertical columns of 7 colors each. The plates are divided into 6 series. In plates I–XII the middle row of horizontal colors represents the 36 colors and hues most readily distinguished in the spectrum, although it is said to be possible to distinguish 1,000. Above these colors each succeeding horizontal row of colors is the spectrum color mixed with 9.5; 22.5; and 45 per cent. of white. Below they are mixed with 45; 70.5 and 87.5 per cent. of black. Plates XIII–XXVI represent the colors in

<sup>1</sup> Color Standards and Color Nomenclature. By Robert Ridgway [3447 Oakwood Terrace, N.W.], Washington. Published by the author 1912. Pp. 1–44; pls. I–LIII. \$8.00.